National Informatics Centre

*368. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new department called the National Informatics Centre has been established to centralise data collection regarding various Governmental activities;

(b) if so, the details of the set-up of this Centre; and

(c) whether this Centre would also take over the functions of the Central Statistical Organisation, the statistical departments of other Ministries, and the bodies preparing the wholesale price index and the consumer price index?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been in existence since 1975 under the Department of Electronics. In March 1988, it was transferred to the Planning Commission. The basic objective of the Centre is to create a nation-wise computer-communication infrastructure linking various Departments of the Central Government, the State Governments/Union Territories and the District Administrations. The primary responsibility of NIC is to promote appropriate computerisation and to facilitate processing and retrieval of information for decision support, on-line Plan Project information and to assist or carry out analysis and modelling studies utilising the data bases created on the computer.

(c) No, Sir.

Appointment of Anomaly Committee regarding disparity in Pay Scales of Pharmacists

*369. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had appointed an Anomaly Committee to remove the disparity between the pay scale of the Central Government Pharmacists and the Union Territory Administrations' Pharmacists;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) whether Government had decided to extend the recommendations of Fourth Central Pay Commission made in respect of the Central Government Pharmacist to the Union Territory Administstrations' Pharmacists ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The revised pay-scales for Pharmacists in Union Territory Administrations should be the same as for Pharmacists in Central Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Incentives for adopting Family Planning

*370. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the incentives provided to those adopting family planning in the unorganised sector; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to encourage the motivators and the doctors under this programme?